

# Spoo Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic  
By Bill Whitman

## That International Flavor

Just about anything you might care to try at the International Hotel has certainly got the international flavor and this you've got to believe, be it cuisine, entertainment or just plain good service.

So now, beginning next Tuesday (that'll be Oct. 3) and every Tuesday thru Friday thereafter, it's to be the luncheon bit and in the grand style — food-wise but not price-wise.

The luncheon hours are set from 11:45 'til 2:15, according to General Manager William Ash, in the Penthouse Restaurant at the top of the 14-story hotel.

Two heads are better than one, is the old saying and especially when it comes to food so two very efficient heads got together at the International for this one: Executive Chef Lino and Food and Beverage Director Weaver Swanson collaborated in preparing a daily menu sufficiently varied to tempt every palate.

The new menu, which will change daily, will be comprised of luncheon specials as well as a la carte entrees. Luncheon-outers can look forward to enjoying the attractive, imaginative quality of cuisine for which the restaurant is famous . . . so no more brown-bagging it, there, fella. And these luncheons start at one ninety-five.

As all you regulars well know, the Penthouse has been noted since its opening for its spectacular view as well as its food, overlooking the bustling airport area and Greater Los Angeles from the mountains to the sea.

Then for those of you who feel in the dinner mood a bit later, dinners are being served nightly, Wednesday thru Sunday beginning at 5:30. The continental cuisine and impeccable sterling silver service that earned the Holiday Magazine's accolade of "Outstanding" still prevails. And there's dancing in the adjacent Lounge nightly to the music of the Charlie Amato Trio.

LAS VEGAS Action—Caught has always been able to cap-



**STRAIGHT . . .** So maybe you think Nellie Lutchter isn't straight! Catch her one of these nites soon when she opens at Sam Faglia's San Franciscan Restaurant on Sepulveda Blvd. at Crenshaw in Torrance. She opens next Tuesday for a two week gig.

Sheeky Greene's bit at the Hotel Riviera recently and to say he's practically built a new act around the Sinatra "Incident" would be putting it mildly. Y'know, Sheeky himself has had similar "incidents" occur in which he's been involved but, ironically

talize on the events by digging out whatever humor he can find in them, and in retrospect they sometimes bring down the house. And what'll you bet Mr. S. also gets his jollies with this talented comic!

And now, according to Dave Halper and Tony Zoppi of the Riviera, there's someone else wanting into the act with Bob Hope and Company. This time it's Lynda Bird who wants to accompany him on his next junket to our troubled Vietnam over the Christmas holidays. One very good reason could be that her soon-to-be husband is expected to be there by that time himself.

And don't buy that jazz about Vic Damone leaving the Riviera for another Strip hotel next month. He follows Sheeky Greene into the Starlite Theatre on Oct. 18! So there, too, oop Parnello's ork will again back Damone.

Now just "down the road a piece" at the Hotel Tropi-cans, the Dukes of Dixieland and Stanley Kramer's "The Pretty Dolls" (Les Jolles Ponettes) are just about in the middle of an unusual entertainment parlay which started a three-week run Sept. 22.

The picturesque puppets are making their initial showing in the spacious showcase but for the Dukes, the Blue Room engagement marks a return, following their outstanding tour of Japan.

Meanwhile, the Folles Bergere is in its ninth month, while Judy West continues in La Fontaine Lounge. In the Gourmet Room it's Julian Foorman.

And all that just about takes care of Las Vegas, as far as we know, for this time.

Are you in on the do at Friar Tuck's in Manhattan Beach? Better hurry and get your name in the hat or you'll lose out completely. And you do like to "bat the breeze" (you'll excuse the expression) at Friar Tuck's, don't you?

Well Johnny Angelidis has "an old bat" he's getting rid of down there and you might as well get in on the fun. Or it's not really an old bat, per se. In fact it's kind of a young one . . . but a little on the hefty side, if you know what we mean!

So if your name is called, you get to "carry her home" and rot 'o' ruck but bring your truck . . . to Friar Tuck (more of same!)

This has got to be the biggest baseball bat in town and if your name is drawn, it's yours. No money changes hands, no raffles . . . just put your name in the hat!

Ooops! She's back due to many requests received by Sam Faglia at the San Franciscan Restaurant and Cock-fall Lounge!

It's Nellie Lutchter, back with her own inimitable stylings and who has made many friends at this popular Torrance spot over the years and of course, Nellie's well known the country over and especially in the Los Angeles area. One of the most solid all 'round entertainers to ever trod the boards and loaded with talent.

From long years of experience, Nellie Lutchter has the uncanny ability to get and hold your interest from the moment she gets behind the piano 'til she leaves. A gal that can really hold an audience.

This versatile artist is booked into the San Franciscan for a limited engagement

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**THREE OF A KIND . . .** And the kind of three they are in this case is the Tommy Carlucci Trio who are playing nightly for your dancing and listening pleasure in the Trophy Lounge of the International Hotel. Every nite except Sunday, that is.

. . . just two weeks, in fact, beginning next Tuesday, the 3rd. So get busy and make your reservations like now or you'll miss out on some of the finest entertainment available in the South Bay area.

And while we're in the general area, let's not forget "The Mick" who opened a two-week run at the Carousel Theatre Tuesday, this week.

The Magnificent Mickey Rooney not only directed the current "Luv" piece but plays one of the principal roles so swing on out Covina way and get yourself entertained as only "The Mick" can do!

The thought skipped thru the mind one nite last week about that action that used to go on down at Tom Washburn's Fisherman's Haven on the Fisherman's Wharf.

Ralph and the rest of the bartenders used to take turns fishing out the window on the side of the place and to date

it seems Ralph is the champion with the largest one ever pulled out of those waters so close in.

However, all that's probably been discontinued since they remodeled in there. Don't think the window from which they used to cast is still in their territory, the bar having taken up that slack.

But you can still find a lot of fun and lots of fun-loving people at Fisherman's Haven, both land lubbers as well as fishermen . . . and women. Plus, the food here's quite terrific for either luncheon or dinner. And those clams and oysters on the half shell are really something. Just what the doctor ordered while you sit there and stare out to sea. Give it a go, one time, old chap!

You talk about satisfaction in the food world! You've got it and more when you visit the Red Balloon on Hawthorne Blvd. in Torrance. Every Tuesday, Thursday

and Saturday nite you can go the "all you can eat" route at The Balloon in the spaghetti department and it'll cost you only 99c per each and all with that very special meat sauce, plus a tossed green salad with Italian dressing and that fine garlic bread. Now let's see just how much of this you can put away at one sitting. No fair going out and running around the block, y'know.

Now then, on the other hand, if you're a chicken sport and like it Southern Fried style, well this, too, is available complete with all the goodies like creamy, whipped spuds, chicken gravy, cole slaw, hot roll and butter. But remember, it's strictly an "eat in" item . . . no take-out. Just eat all you can and pay your one-o-nine then everyone'll be happy. Even restaurant manager Clara Dalhke, who runs a tight ship at The Red Balloon.

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**A PAIR . . .** It's always a high hand when two such stalwarts as Eve Starr and Art Jarrett get together as above, enjoying the music of the Sam Ray Trio at The Marquis Restaurant on Sunset Strip.



**FULL HOUSE . . .** Well now, like WOW! Maybe you think this ISN'T a full house! But any time "Valeta" hits the stand there's bound to be a full house anywhere she appears. She's at the Galley West currently with the Zep Meizner Trio for dance time and show time.